

Initial Classification

Upon arrival at a Division of Adult Institution (DAI) intake center, person(s) in our care (PIOC) are assessed and evaluated for custody, program/treatment needs, and facility placement per Chapter DOC 302 Inmate Classification, Sentence, and Release Provisions.

Custody Levels Considerations:

The Wisconsin Department of Corrections (WIDOC) assigns an inmate custody classification during initial classification using the factors identified in DOC 302.11. The department may consider any of the following factors when assigning inmate custody. 1. The nature, number, and severity of each offense. In evaluating the nature and severity of an offense, the department may consider the following:

- (a) Potential of physical danger to another
 - (b) Harm done to the victim in the commission of the offense
 - (c) Whether the inmate exhibited physical aggressiveness that exposed another to harm
 - (d) Aggravating or mitigating factors in the commission of the offense
 - (e) Motivation for the offense
2. Length of sentence being served
 3. Length of time in a particular custody classification, overall time served during the current period of incarceration, and time remaining to serve
 4. Attitude regarding the offense and sentence
 5. Criminal record and juvenile delinquency adjudications
 6. Conduct and adjustment during current or prior confinements or community supervision
 7. Record of escape or walk away from an institution or a mental health facility or absconding from probation, parole, or extended supervision
 8. Security threat group incidents, activities, or affiliations
 9. Gender
 10. Age
 11. Medical, dental, and mental health status, including physical or psychological treatment and observation
 12. Risk to a victim, witness, general public, or inmate. In determining this risk, the department may consider the general public's perception of the offense and the inmate.
 13. Performance or refusal to participate in programs, treatment, or services associated with identified needs.
 14. Pending legal process, notification or detainer
 15. Parole commission actions, stated expectations of the parole commission, and the likelihood of a release during the review period
 16. History or characteristics of predatory behavior towards others
 17. History or characteristics of vulnerability to hurt or harm by others
 18. The results of assessments or instruments developed to assist with the assignment of custody classification

Mandatory Restrictors:

An assignment of custody will include a review of Mandatory Restrictors. Mandatory Restrictors prevent an individual from placement in a specified custody level due to the DAI policy and/or correctional practices implemented to manage an individual while confined. Individuals who were classified prior to implementing mandatory restrictors will remain at their current custody.

Facility Placement

The Bureau of Offender Classification and Movement (BOCM) staff shall consider assigned custody and the DAI facility placement criteria and/or DAI policies when recommending placement. Facility placement includes the need for review and consideration of dental, medical and/or psychological services information.

Program Needs

BOCM assigns primary program needs which includes: anger management, academics, cognitive-behavioral program, domestic violence, employment, substance use disorder and vocation. Programs are assigned based on the Correctional Offender Management Profiling for Alternative Sanctions (COMPAS) criminogenic needs scales and/or a comprehensive review of all collateral information e.g., Alternative Screening Tool (AST), file information, individual interview and professional judgment. If an individual does refuses a COMPAS Assessment, BOCM assigns programs based on all other available information. Program assignment shall be evaluated/reviewed again when the individual completes the COMPAS assessment.

Sex offender Treatment Evaluations are completed by psychological services when applicable.

At every classification update, a PIOC eligibility and suitability for the Challenge Incarceration Program and the Earned Release Program is reviewed and updated.

Documentation

BOCM uses the DAI Inmate Classification Report Documentation Standards when entering the results of the Initial Classification Hearing into WICS. The PIOC is provided a copy of the Classification Report.

Social Worker and Treatment Specialist Responsibilities:

The PIOC assigned Social Worker/Treatment Specialist does not have a role related to the initial classification process but is responsible for facilitating subsequent Re-Classification Pre-Hearings. If PIOC have questions or concerns regarding their Initial Classification, refer them to their institution's/center's Classification Specialist.

References and Resources:

For information on custody levels refer to myDOC > Directories > Central Office > BOCM > Business Process > Link to Admin code.

For information on mandatory restrictors refer to myDOC > Directories > Central Office > BOCM > IFCC Manual > Mandatory Restrictors.

ECRM > DAI > INTAKE > INITIAL CLASSIFICATION_JANUARY 2023

For information on Classification documentation standards refer to myDOC > Directories > Central Office > BOCM > BOCM Manuals & Resources

DAI Inmate Classification Report Documentation Standards